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30 December 1983

MEMORANDUM FOR: Chief, Terrorism Analysis Branch  
Office of Global Issues  
Instability and Insurgency Center

THROUGH: Deputy Chief, South Asia Division  
Near Eastern and South Asian Analysis

FROM: Chief, Subcontinent Branch  
South Asia Division  
Near Eastern and South Asian Analysis

SUBJECT: Indian Support for Tamil Terrorists ☐

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1. The Tamil minority community of Sri Lanka receives irregular support, materiel and training in the South Indian state of Tamil Nadu ☐ Various Tamil terrorists have publicly described the range of support they have received in Tamil Nadu and have claimed that in many instances this support was given with the knowledge of the state government. We believe New Delhi is aware of this activity but has taken no action to control the situation. ☐

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2. Location: ☐

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☐ we believe the immediate environs of Madras are used regularly as a sanctuary by Sri Lankan Tamils. ☐

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3. Groups Involved: Several Tamil separatist groups in Sri Lanka are known to use bases in India, according to press accounts. ☐

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4. Range of Training: Accounts vary as to how much instruction terrorists are receiving in South India.

We believe that the level of training is not as sophisticated as claimed and that only a few Sri Lankan Tamil activists are involved in the effort. Public sympathy in South India for Tamil extremists seeking asylum is widespread, however, and the number of Tamils that escape to South India to avoid arrest in Sri Lanka is high.

5. Dates of Information: Information regarding support for Tamil extremist groups in South India goes back to the early 1970's. The number of substantive reports has increased since the ethnic disturbances that rocked Sri Lanka in July, 1983.

6. accounts of Tamil terrorist groups receiving sanctuary in Tamil Nadu on a regular basis but details on the extent of training these groups receive is largely unsubstantiated. We believe the reports have been exaggerated somewhat to influence public opinion.

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